

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper is responsive to the restriction requirement mailed August 8, 2008. Claims 49-95 are currently pending in this application and are subject to a restriction requirement. Claims 49-95 are cancelled and new claims 96-151 are added. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added as support for the claims exists in the specification and claims as originally filed.

Response to Restriction Requirement

Claim Restriction

According to the Office Action, election is required between the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 49-90, which according to the Office Action, are drawn to a formulation to be applied to keratinous material.

Group II: Claims 91-95, which according to the Office Action, are drawn to a method of treating keratinous material.

Applicants elect Group II (claims 91-95) for examination.

Applicants note that previously pending claims (49-95)—including elected claims 91-95—have been canceled, and new claims (96-151) are presented as shown above. Applicants further note that all newly presented claims are method claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that all of the new claims be examined in this application.

Species Restriction

Election is also required, according to the Office Action, between the following species:

“the active material” (the species (a), (b), and (c) recited in instant claim 51; and

"the carrier agent" (polymers derived from ethylenically unsaturated monomers, natural polysaccharides, substituted polysaccharides, or modified polysaccharides).

Applicants elect the following:

For *"the active material;"* species (a) recited in new claim 101; and

for *"the carrier agent;"* polymers derived from ethylenically unsaturated monomers
(see new claim 127).

Claims 96-101, 107-110, 113-124, 127-136, and 148-151 read on the elected species.

Conclusion

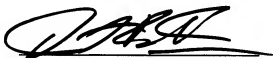
Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance; notice to that effect is hereby solicited. Should any issues remain to be discussed in this application, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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